The image is a basophil. Basophils are mediumsized granulocytic white blood cells. They are usually round, as in this cell. They are recognized by their numerous deep purple or blue-black cytoplasmic granules, which often obscure the nucleus. These granules are water soluble and sometimes wash out during the staining process. If visible, the nuclei in basophils generally have two to three lobes, with condensed and clumped chromatin.